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## **Southeast Asia Report**



**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE**

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23 May 1984

## SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

## CONTENTS

## AUSTRALIA

## Briefs:

'Star Wars' Weapons Research	1
Hayden to Europe, USSR	1
Hawke Defends Immigration Policy	1

## KAMPUCHEA

VODK Views Support for CGDK Struggle Against SRV (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 11 May 84) .....	3
Press Marks 7 May Dien Bien Phu Anniversary (SPK, 5 May 84) .....	5
Reportage on Battlefield Activity 30 Apr-11 May (Various sources, various dates) .....	7
Pursat Train Ambush	
Attack on Battambang Town	
Svay Sisophon Town 'Liberated'	
SRV Battalion Routed in Siem Reap	
SRV Battalion Routed in Samlot	
SRV Attacked in Moun	
Third Attack Launched on Pursat	
Kang Meas Villages Liberated	
SRV Position Liberated	
Night Attack in Battambang Area	
Guerrilla Attack in Siem Reap	
Kompong Thom Villages Liberated	
Leach Battlefield Posts Liberated	
Official Letter Issued on Death of Thang Bai (Phnom Penh Domestic Service, 7 May 84) .....	12
Agriculture Minister Kong Sam Ol Details Food Crisis (Bertil Ekerlid; SVENSKA DAGBLADET, 15 Apr 84) .....	13

Leaders Receive Thank-You Messages From USSR (Phnom Penh Domestic Service, 13 May 84) .....	18
March, April Actions Against Enemy Forces Noted (Phnom Penh Domestic Service, 10 May 84) .....	19
Report on Agricultural Developments 7-13 May (Kampuchean media, 7-13 May 84).....	20
Brunei Foreign Minister Thanks Khieu Samphan (Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, 8 May 84) .....	22
Briefs	
Youth Army Volunteers	23
'Bandits' Killed in Mondolkiri	23
Hungarian Thanks Chea Sim	23
Yong-Nam Message to Samphan	23
Kim Il-song Thanks Khieu Samphan	24
Defectors in Battambang	24
Chea Soth Inspection Tour	24
LAOS	
Editorial on Dien Bien Phu Victory Anniversary (Vientiane Domestic Service, 7 May 84) .....	25
Phoumi Vongvichit Greet SRV Educators (Vientiane Domestic Service, 4 May 84) .....	29
Farmers Reaping 'Good' Dry Season Rice Crop (Vientiane Domestic Service, 11 May 84) .....	30
Briefs	
Vongkham Sao Receives Egyptian Ambassador	31
CPSU Delegation Departs	31
MALAYSIA	
Briefs	
Chinese Association Reinstates Leaders	32
NEW ZEALAND	
Briefs	
Country's Interests in Libya	33
PHILIPPINES	
VERITAS Editorial on Imelda's Rome Pilgrimage (VERITAS, 29 Apr-5 May 84) .....	34
VERITAS Editorial on Interview With Balweg (VERITAS, 29 Apr-5 May 84) .....	36

## THAILAND

CPM Influence in South Said To Be 'Still Strong' (Soemsuk Kasitthipradit; BANGKOK POST, 14 May 84) .....	37
Cardinal Discusses Pope's Impending Visit (Michai Kitbunchu Interview; THE NATION REVIEW, 6 May 84)	39
Debts 'Likely' To Force Changes in ESD Plan (Chatchai Yenbamrung; BANGKOK POST, 16 May 84) .....	41
Briefs Drive Against Southern Communists	43

## WESTERN SAMOA

Western Samoa's 'Economic Miracle' Applauded (Editorial; THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD, 23 Apr 84) .....	44
--	----

## VIETNAM

### MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Ha Tuyen People Help Build Border Projects (Hanoi Domestic Service, 8 May 84) .....	45
--	----

### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

Hanoi Cites NHAN DAN on U.S.-PRC Relations (Hanoi Domestic Service, 3 May 84) .....	47
NHAN DAN Cites Foreign Opinions of PRC Provocations (Hanoi Domestic Service, 5 May 84) .....	49
Briefs	
Cuban Receives Friendship Order	50
CPV Delegation to Greece	50
Austrian Envoy Ends Tour	50
Tunisian Envoy Ends Tour	50
SRV Envoy to Kuwait	50
Delegation Meets Slovak Official	51
Austrian Ambassador Presents Credentials	51
Dien Bien Phu Commemorated	51
Thais Oppose PRC Policies	52

### PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HCM City Meeting Marks Dien Bien Phu Victory (Hanoi Domestic Service, 5 May 84) .....	53
Ho Chi Minh City Panel on People's Livelihood (Hanoi Domestic Service, 9 May 84) .....	55

Catholic Body Rejects Foreign Media 'Slander'	
(VNA, 6 May 84) .....	56

Briefs	
Dien Bien Phu Victory	59

#### HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

To Huu Urges Doing Publishing Work Well	
(Hanoi Domestic Service, 2 May 84) .....	60

BRIEFS

'STAR WARS' WEAPONS RESEARCH--One of the nation's biggest antinuclear organizations says Australia should immediately end its involvement in a project aimed at developing high velocity weapons for outer space. Recent reports from Washington said the Pentagon confirmed that weapons research carried out in Australia over the past 3 years could play a part in the so-called star wars antimissile system being developed in the United States. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL says the American Defense Department confirmed that under a 3-year cooperative agreement, there have been tests in Australia on technology for what is known as hypervelocity and electromagnetic gun. The spokesman for People for Nuclear Disarmament, Dr (Joe Camellerie), said research in Melbourne and Canberra for the United States star wars system is directly contributing to the arms race. Dr (Camellerie) said the government's involvement in the project contradicts its claim that it support nuclear disarmament. [Text] [BK060733 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 6 May 84]

HAYDEN TO EUROPE, USSR--The foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, has described his coming trip to Moscow as an important step in Australia's efforts to redevelop a more productive relationship with the Soviet Union. Mr Hayden will visit the Soviet capital as part of a European trip starting next Friday. In London, he will have talks with British Government officials before traveling to Paris for the annual meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on 17 and 18 May. Other cities to be visited include The Hague and Budapest. Mr Hayden's visit to Moscow, the first by an Australian foreign minister for 20 years, will include talks with the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Gromyko, and other Soviet leaders. Mr Hayden will then visit Soviet Central Asia briefly before returning to Australia. [Text] [BK061330 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 6 May 84]

HAWKE DEFENDS IMMIGRATION POLICY--The prime minister, Mr Hawke, has defended his government's immigration policy against opposition criticism that it discriminates in favor of Asians. Speaking in Canberra, Mr Hawke said the government had reduced the overall number of migrants because of the economic situation and lack of jobs when it came into office in March last year. He said the proportion of Asians had increased because 71,000 refugees admitted between 1978 and 1983 were entitled to sponsor the immigration of their close relatives under the government's family reunion program. Mr Hawke said Australian settlers from other traditional immigration source countries had

already exercised their family reunion rights. Earlier, the opposition leader, Mr Peacock, had claimed that the government's immigration policy had caused an imbalance between the number of migrants from Asia and those from other countries. Mr Peacock said the opposition accepted Asian immigration but was concerned about the declining rate of immigration from Europe. [Text] [BK081305 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 8 May 84]

CSO: 4200/727



VODK VIEWS SUPPORT FOR CGDK STRUGGLE AGAINST SRV

BK120550 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT  
11 May 84

[Station commentary: "Many Friends Near and Far in the World Are Pleased To Continue To Vigorously Assist and Support the Struggle of the Kampuchean People and our CGDK To Drive out the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors"]

[Text] During the past 5 years, our Kampuchean people's struggle against the war of aggression expansion, and swallowing of territory and the genocidal war of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy has been steadily developed. In this 6th year, our struggle has been advanced more in all fields than in the previous years. This good situation has strongly encouraged our entire Kampuchean nation and people inside and outside the country. It has also boosted our Kampuchean people to unite into a great national union in their struggle in all fields and in all forms against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators until they withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea. This good situation has pleased our friends, both near and far, who have vigorously assisted and supported our Kampuchean people and our CGDK in their continued struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors until they are more and more bogged down on the battlefield of aggression.

In their joint statement issued on 8 May after their meeting in Jakarta, the ASEAN foreign ministers declared that the ASEAN countries fully support the CGDK under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea. On 7 May, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander of the Thai Army Forces, stated that Thailand only recognizes the tripartite CGDK and it categorically does not recognize the Heng Samrin puppets who were set up by the Vietnamese. When Vice President Khieu Samphan attended the ESCAP conference in Tokyo, Shintaro Abe, Japanese foreign minister, reaffirmed to him that the Japanese Government will continue to support the struggle of the Kampuchean people and the CGDK until they achieve their final goal of driving all Vietnamese aggressors from Kampuchea. When Vice President Khieu Samphan visited Niger, Ide Oumarou, Niger's foreign minister, declared that the people and the Government of Niger will continue to support the struggle of the Kampuchean people and the CGDK until Kampuchea is completely liberated and the Kampuchean people are able to determine their own destiny by

themselves. On the occasion of the 9th founding anniversary of Democratic Kampuchea, there were many other friends in the world who expressed their sympathy for and solidarity with the Kampuchean people and the CGDK in their struggle against the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy's aggression to ensure the national salvation, defense, and survival of the Kampuchean nation, people and race.

The Kampuchean people and the CGDK would like to express their profound thanks to the ASEAN countries and all friends near and far throughout the world who have firmly assisted and supported our Kampuchean people's struggle during the past more than 5 years. All these friendly countries have firmly adhered to a just stand at the side of the Kampuchean people who have been victims of the Vietnamese aggression. These countries have repeatedly called on the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors to completely withdraw their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions. The victories that we have successively scored over the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors are certainly due to the sacrifices of the fresh blood and flesh of our Kampuchean people and combatants, but they cannot be separated from the assistance and support of friendly countries near and far throughout the world. We are confident that the ASEAN countries and all friends near and far throughout the world will continue to provide all forms of assistance and support to our Kampuchean people's struggle and continue to firmly demand and pressure the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy until they pull all of their aggressor troops out of Kampuchea in conformity with the UN General Assembly resolutions.

The Kampuchean people, the National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea, and our CGDK are determined to continue to more closely unite, by raising high the banner of our vigorous struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, so that we can achieve our final victory to drive all the aggressors out of Kampuchean territory to make ourselves worthy of the confidence, assistance, and support of all friends near and far throughout the world. Our struggle is also for an independent, peaceful, neutral, and non-aligned Kampuchea which will contribute to the defense of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the whole world.

CSO: 4212/49

PRESS MARKS 7 MAY DIEN BIEN PHU ANNIVERSARY

BK060652 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0436 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] Phnom Penh, 5 May (SPK)--The Kampuchean press devotes extensive coverage to the 30th anniversary (May 7) of Vietnam's Dien Bien Phu victory and to the great successes of the socialist revolution, which have made Vietnam an impregnable outpost of peace and socialism in Indochina.

The weekly REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES notes that this victory added a new chapter to the history of the Vietnamese people and also to that of the other Indochinese peoples and all oppressed nations across the world. "Dien Bien Phu filled with hope all peoples fighting for national liberation while marking the downfall of colonialism and imperialism," the paper says.

It says that the army and people of Kampuchea have learned a great deal from the revolutionary heroism displayed at Dien Bien Phu. "We realized the necessity to consolidate the militant solidarity between Kampuchea and Vietnam and among all the three Indochinese peoples in defending the independence and freedom of each country and in safeguarding peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world over," the paper further says.

The weekly KAMPUCHEA hails Dien Bien Phu as the fruition of the close solidarity among the peoples of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos in the struggle against their common enemy for independence and freedom, and as contribution to peace throughout the world. That victory was also a result of the strong, effective support of the socialist countries, the national liberation movement and all progressive forces in the world, the paper notes.

The weekly PHNOM PENH gives highlights to the heroism and courage of the Vietnamese people who proved to the world that the enemies, though they were militarily stronger, could not break the will of a small but united nation. The paper stresses that the Kampuchean people will follow the example of heroism set by the fraternal people of Vietnam in national defence and construction.

The papers run stories on the different stages of the offensive on the French garrison at Dien Bien Phu which was claimed to be the biggest military

stronghold in Southeast Asia. One story recalls the last day when Gen De Castries and his staff surrendered to the Vietnam People's Army. The stories are richly illustrated. One photo shows President Ho Chi Minh and other members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the then Vietnam Workers' Party planning the historic campaign. Others show the assault on Hill Al--a major French outpost--the surrender of the French garrison, and other memorable instances.

CSO: 4200/750

REPORTAGE ON BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITY 30 APR-11 MAY

Pursat Train Ambush

BK050637 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT  
4 May 84

[Text] On 30 April, our guerrillas ambushed a Vietnamese enemy train at an area between Totoeng Thngai and Kamreng railway stations. We killed 25 Vietnamese soldiers, including a battalion commander, and wounded 38 others. We destroyed a locomotive, 16 train cars, 2 AK's, 2 12.7-mm guns, 3 M-16's, and 3 portions of railroad tracks totaling 55 meters; and seized 16 AK's, a B-40, a Goryunov, 2 CK's, an M-79, a pistol, 850 AK rounds, 750 rounds of Goryunov ammunition, 16 hand grenades, 25 rucksacks, and 10 sacks of rice.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army, guerrillas, and people on Pursat battlefield!

Attack on Battambang Town

BK050032 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] At 2230 on 30 April, our commandos attacked Battambang town for the fourth time. We launched this attack on three prongs: the first attacked the defense network of Spean Thmei beidge; the second attacked the Vietnamese position at Vat Balat monastery; and the third moved toward the rice purchasing center near Vat Sophi monastery.

Following a 15-minute battle, we achieved success on these three prongs. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 2 paddy storage containing over 12,000 sacks of paddy, a large rice miller, a bureau, a check-point, 8 defense posts, and a warehouse; and seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition, and war materiel.

The Vietnamese soldiers in Battambang town were in great panic and fired gunshots at random throughout the night.

### Svay Sisophon Town 'Liberated'

BK050048 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 4 May 84

[Excerpt] Here is a report from various battlefields:

Sisophon-South of Route 5 battlefield: We launched a 3-pronged attack against the Vietnamese enemy in Svay Sisophon town for the third time on 30 April. The first prong hit the Svay Sisophon town. The second prong attacked an enemy defense network for (Say Sin) position. The third prong hit the bus terminal.

Following a 25-minute battle, we totally liberated and controlled the Svay Sisophon town. We killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers; destroyed a rice miller, 15 motor vehicles, a telephone set, 5 barracks, and a quantity of war material; and seized 2 AK's, 5 sumpsacks, and a quantity of war materiel.

### SRV Battalion Routed in Siem Reap

BK080934 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] On 18 April, our national army and guerrillas ambushed a Vietnamese battalion supported by four tanks which was attempting to launch an operation at (Phnom Sangvay), Chikreng District, Siem Reap Province. We fire at the enemy soldiers when they arrived at Phum (Robiep) and Sleng Kaong villages, killing four and wounding six. We also destroyed three M-113 tanks. The survivors fled back.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army, guerrillas, and people in Chikreng District, Siem Reap Province!

### SRV Battalion Routed in Samlot

BK060424 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] On 24 April, the Vietnamese enemy sent a battalion of soldiers from (O Roat Kraoh) on Samlot battlefield to attack our liberated zone. At a short distance from (O Roat Kraoh), we ambushed these Vietnamese soldiers from the front and flanks, killing 30 and wounding 32 others. The survivors turned back. We seized an M-79, 15 M-79 grenades, 15 B-40 rockets, 9 B-41 rockets, and a quantity of war materiel.

Long live our valiant national army, guerrillas, and people on Samlot battlefield!



### SRV Attacked in Moung

BK080510 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] On 28 April our national army and guerrillas attacked, liberated, and completely occupied a Vietnamese position at Muk Rea, Moung battlefield. We killed five Vietnamese enemy soldiers and destroyed an AK.

On 29 April, our national army and guerrillas attacked, liberated, and completely occupied a Vietnamese position at Pal village on the same battlefield. We killed a Vietnamese soldier and wounded two others. We destroyed two military barracks and a quantity of materials. We also attacked Spean Chak, killing a Vietnamese soldier, wounding another, and destroying a barracks.

We inflicted a total of 10 casualties on the Vietnamese, liberating and occupying two Vietnamese enemy positions.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army, guerrillas, and people on the Moung battlefield!

### Third Attack Launched on Pursat

BK100156 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] On 7 May we launched a 3-prong third attack on Pursat town. The first prong originated from the intersection of Route 56 and headed toward the bridge and the market. The second prong was conducted along the railway toward the bridge and the railway station. The third prong was aimed at Lolok Sar commune office, located near the river, and the railway station. It also included sweep operations along Route 56 to Roleap village. The results are as follows:

Destruction: We killed 18 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 22 others. We destroyed two 82-mm mortars, a Goryunov, a RPD, 2 B-40's, 6 AK's, 24 military barracks, 18 trenches, a truck, a telephone, and a tank of diesel. We cut two bridges: a 40-meter bridge on the railway and a 22-meter iron bridge on Route 56.

Seizure: We seized 2 AK's, a CK, a B-40, a telephone, and a quantity of ammunition and military materials.

### Kang Meas Villages Liberated

BK130236 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 May 84

[Excerpt] Here is a report from various battlefields.

Kompong Cham battlefield, Kang Meas District: On 6 May, we attacked and totally smashed the Reay Pay commune office. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers and destroyed two commune office buildings and a quantity of war materiel. We seized an AK and a quantity of war materiel.

We liberated six villages in this commune, namely, Phum (Pong Hing), Ponnareay, Reay Pay, Prek Pranak, (Tuol Krabei) and (Tuol Kei).

#### SRV Position Liberated

BK120430 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] At 0200 on 7 May, our special detachment attacked the Vietnamese enemy position at Phat Sanday on the Tonle Sap battlefield in two prongs. The first prong aimed at the office of the Phat Sanday town. The second prong hit the defense post at the fish pier in Peam Sen. The results of this attack are as follows:

We killed 36 Vietnamese soldiers; wounded 26 others; destroyed 3 AK's, an AR-15, a B-40, 5 trawlers, 2 motorboats, 5 small boats, a 500-meter-long fish pier, and a quantity of war materiel; seized 8 AK's and a quantity of war materiel; and liberated this position.

#### Night Attack in Battambang Area

BK120424 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] On the night of 7 May, our forces launched a two-pronged attack on a Vietnamese position at Kong Tum, the Peam Ek commune office, and the PRK Narin commune office on Battambang battlefield. The first prong hit the Kong Tum company position and the Peam Ek commune office. The second prong hit the Prek Narin commune office. The results of this attack are as follows:

We killed five Vietnamese soldiers; wounded six others; and destroyed an AK, an N-79, an RPD, a commune office, three trenches, three barracks, and a quantity of war materiel. We liberated 13 villages, namely, Phum Koy, Kong Tum, (Sbei), Prek Narin, Ek Reangsei, Svay Chrum, Suos Ei, Peak Ek, Rohal, Ta Kong, Prek Totoeng, Kouk Dong, and Prek Sdach.

#### Guerrilla Attack in Siem Reap

BK140744 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] On 8 May our commandos successfully attacked the Srei Snam District office at Chroun village in Siem Reap Province. The attack was launched in three prongs: The first prong attacked the commanding post of the battalion defending the district from the south; the second attacked the position of the platoon defending the district from the east; and the third attacked the Srei Snam District office. We occupied this office for 1 night. As a result:



1. We killed 22 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 15 others. We destroyed 2 paddy warehouses containing 10,000 sacks of paddy, 2 warehouses containing 300 sacks of rice, an ammunition dump, a fabric warehouse, a milk warehouse, a storehouse, 2 district offices, a district trade office, 19 barracks, and a quantity of materiel.

2. We seized 8 AK's and 940 rounds of ammunition, 15 hand grenades, 20 rucksacks, 20 sets of clothes, 20 pairs of shoes, 8 hammocks, 28 helmets, 9 belts, a tape recorder, 2 radio sets, a loudspeaker, 2 bicycles, and a quantity of materiel.

#### Kompong Thom Villages Liberated

BK170330 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT  
16 May 84

[Text] On 8 May, our national army and guerrillas attacked and completely destroyed Sala Visai commune office and liberated three villages, namely Sala Visai, Russei, and Bos Veng, on the Kompong Thom battlefield. We killed and wounded a number of Vietnamese enemy soldiers. We destroyed a commune office, a military materials storehouse, a barrack, 5 AR-15's, and a quantity of materiel. We seized 9 AR-15's, a carbine, and a quantity of materiel.

Long live our courageous and valiant national army, guerrillas, and people on the Kompong Thom battlefield!

#### Leach Battlefield Posts Liberated

BK170310 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT  
16 May 84

[Text] On 11 May, our national army and guerrillas attacked and liberated a Vietnamese company position at (Lar) village near Sre Khlong bridge and a platoon position in O Preal village, Leach battlefield. After 30 minutes of fighting, we completely liberated these two positions. We killed 8 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 10 others for a total of 18 casualties. We burned down 5 military barracks and a quantity of materials. We seized an AK and a quantity of materials.

Long live our courageous and valiant national army, guerrillas, and people on the Leach battlefield!

CSO: 4212/49

OFFICIAL LETTER ISSUED ON DEATH OF THANG BAI

BK071351 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 7 May 84

[Letter of condolences from the KPRP Central Committee, Council of State, and Council of Ministers of the PRK--date not given]

[Text] The KPRP and all Kampuchean people are grieved by the demise of an outstanding communist of the KPRP and Kampuchean state: Comrade Thang Bai, member of the National Assembly and secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's revolutionary committee of Stung Treng Province, who passed away on 3 May 1984 at the age of 57 following a long bout with a chronic illness for which he had received the most attentive and best medical treatment at the revolution hospital and the army hospital in Phnom Penh.

Comrade Than Bai was a pure patriot and a tireless model fighter. He was one of the most loyal persons to the interests of the party and people. A former member of the Indochinese Communist Party, the comrade constantly pursued the precious traditions of struggle, doing his part in the struggle against French colonialism and U.S. imperialism and in the toppling of the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique for national independence, freedom, and the people's happiness.

From the victory of 7 January 1979 to his death, the comrade spared no effort in fulfilling tasks entrusted by the party and state in the cause of national defense and reconstruction.

With much grief over the demise of Comrade Thang Bai, the party and all the people of Kampuchea would like to inscribe in their hearts the comrade's outstanding achievements and will never forget the precious services rendered by him. We pledge to always learn from his example of heroism. We would like to join the bereaved family in mourning the comrade's death.

CSO: 4212/49

AGRICULTURE MINISTER KONG SAM OL DETAILS FOOD CRISIS

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 15 Apr 84 p 5

[Article by Bertil Ekerlid, including a report on his interview with Minister of Agriculture Kong Sam Ol in Phnom Penh; date not specified.]

[Text] A little over 5 years ago, Kampuchea was invaded by Vietnamese forces that overthrew Pol Pot's bloody empire and installed a government headed by Heng Samrin. There was severe famine in several parts of the country at the time, and disease was widespread because of the lack of medicines and the ruthless treatment of the population. Lack of food is still a big problem. "We must have aid from outside if we are to get by," says Minister of Agriculture Kong Sam Ol in this interview with Bertil Ekerlid.

Phnom Penh--Kampuchea is going to suffer a severe shortage of rice by this fall. "Last year's unsuccessful harvest means that we are short 300,000 tons," said Kong Sam Ol, the Heng Samrin government's minister of agriculture, in an interview.

In 1983, 890,000 tons of husked rice were harvested in Kampuchea. Substitute crops--corn, manioc, and sweet potatoes--amounted to 32,000 tons, making a total of 1.2 million tons [as published].

"If the 7.2 million inhabitants are to eat a minimum ration of 14 kilograms of rice per month, a harvest of 1.5 million tons is needed," said Kong Sam Ol. The shortage will become noticeable after the rainy season--in October and November.

He said: "We must have aid from outside if we are to get by. Besides food, we also need seed, fertilizer, and irrigation equipment."

Spartan Office

The interview was taking place in an austere furnished room one floor up in the Ministry of Agriculture in Phnom Penh. A desk stood in one corner. Two sofas and four armchairs were grouped around a low square table. A fan revolved slowly on the ceiling, traffic noise could be heard from the street, and the plaster on the wall behind the minister was full of holes.

The rice shortage is due to the typhoons and flooding caused by last year's monsoon season and the fact that the rain was 2 months late in arriving.

The minister of agriculture said: "Because of the long dry spell, tractors could not plow the hard earth. Oxen could not pull the double plows. Even water buffalo, the Mercedes of the fields, could not handle the job.

"That's how it is now, too. The tractors are standing still. We must wait for the first rainfall before we can begin the next crop year. It usually comes in the middle of April, immediately after the Kampuchean New Year."

#### Rice Exported

Despite the big shortage of food, Kampuchea exported rice last year--from provinces with a surplus--to Hong Kong and Singapore. According to development aid workers in Phnom Penh, rice shipments are also being made to Vietnam by boat on the Mekong River.

We asked: "Wouldn't it be better to distribute the surplus to the provinces where there is a shortage of rice?"

Kong Sam Ol answered: "There were only four provinces that had more than they themselves needed. It would have been very difficult--because of the means of transportation at our disposal--to distribute rice to the 16 provinces with a deficit."

The minister of agriculture said that even Kandal Province on the Mekong Delta south of Phnom Penh was undersupplied with rice--although it is normally one of the most productive areas in Kampuchea.

But in Phum Prek Thom, a village at Kilometer Post 14 on the road from the capital to Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, production has increased greatly in recent years.

Mey Kheun, the commune chairman, gave us a precise report on actual conditions in the village. Hanging behind him in the village meeting hall was a portrait of Ho Chi Minh, while Lenin stared firmly down from another wall, and Heng Samrin's policy was safeguarded by Kampuchea's red and yellow flag and slogans written in the beautifully ornate Khmer script:

"Long live the brilliant People's Revolutionary Party!" "Long live the brilliant People's Republic of Kampuchea!" "Long live the National Front for the Reconstruction and Defense of the Fatherland!"

Mey Kheun said: "The village has the use of 417 hectares of land. Of that total, 176.18 hectares can be cultivated--158.78 hectares during the dry season and 22.4 hectares during the rainy season--and 43.36 hectares are taken up by private family plots."

The statistics were very detailed, but often wrong. According to Kong Sam Ol, rice hectareage is often estimated "from the road." It has happened, he says,

that a province has reported a surplus of rice in April, only to turn around in November and ask the government for help in making up its shortage.

#### Better Seed

Phum Prek Thom is a model village that has received additional government help for developing agriculture. Thanks to better seed, it was possible to increase production from 175 tons of rice in 1980-1981 to 301 tons in 1982-1983. The figures for this dry season are not complete, but Mey Kheun describes it as a "mediocre season."

He believes that the village can further increase production this year if the monsoon rains come on time and there is no flooding.

The commune chairman said: "In 1982 we were able to sell a ton of rice to the government. In 1983 we sold it 1.5 tons, and this year there may be a surplus of over 2 tons."

When the village sells to the government, it is paid about 1,600 riel per ton. At the official rate of exchange, that is the equivalent of about 400 kronor.

Mey Kheun said: "It is true that we are paid more if we sell rice on the free market. But from the government we can buy oxen, fertilizer, and irrigation equipment at reduced prices."

#### Figures Don't Add up

The village has 442 families and 2,386 inhabitants (1,271 women and 1,115 men). The statistics also carefully divide the population into those not fit to work and those who are able--the latter being further classified into two categories according to ability. But when the figures are added up, they do not add back to the total number of inhabitants. Instead of trying to figure out why, we decided to take a walk out in the ricefields.

A Buddhist monk could be heard chanting in a nearby pagoda. His monotonous prayers were soon drowned out, however, by the water pump that the commune chairman was proudly showing off. The village has 14 such pumps, thanks to which it can continue to grow rice at the end of the dry season, when the land is parched and hard.

The Heng Samrin government has received 1,000 of those pumps in foreign aid. But according to Eva Mysliwiec, who works for the British aid organization OXFAM, not more than 60 percent of them are in working order, the reasons being the lack of spare parts and oil and the inability to take care of them--a common problem in aid to developing countries.

We walked along one of the ditches which this operating pump was filling with water for distribution to the ricefields. The ground shone brown and yellow on the plain, but here and there one could see pockets of green rice plants.



Since it was the end of the dry season, not many people were out working in the fields. One woman was squatted down replanting rice, and a man stood digging in another field, while a little farther away, a few people were stabbing desperately at the ground with pickaxes to loosen the hard soil.

Agricultural workers are divided into solidarity groups called "samakis," which consist of seven or eight people each.

Mey Kheun said: "Since there aren't enough men, we have chairwomen in some of the samakis."

Kampuchea is a patriarchal Buddhist society in which women--obviously because of the shortage of men--are slowly beginning to gain more influence.

It was mostly men who lost their lives during Pol Pot's reign of terror between 1975 and 1978. Today it is estimated that women constitute 65 percent of the population. And in Phum Prek Thom, it looks as though nature does not intend to do anything to correct the imbalance: of the six babies born during the first 2 months of this year, five were girls.

#### High Yield

On the way back to the village, Mey Kheun said that the yield per hectare in these fields was 4 tons--a very high figure. We then passed a woman who was irrigating with two watering cans and approached a few palm huts arranged in rows more or less like a Swedish neighborhood of row houses. The wooden houses in which the inhabitants used to live had been destroyed during Pol Pot's time.

San Siney is one of those living in such huts. She has a garden patch totaling 60 ares around her hut and said that the year's crop of bananas and vegetables was a good one. Her husband, Tham Kok, was resting in a hammock with their son. He was one of the 44 men in the village who had been selected for military service, but he contracted malaria during the fighting in Battambang Province on the Thai border.

There are several places in the village where the inhabitants add to the economy with needlework. The girls weave richly colored shawls which they sell in the Phnom Penh market. Chorn Sareung said she gets 21 riel for a towel measuring 1 x 1.5 meters. She produces five a day.

#### Bicycle a Status Symbol

That provides the family with a tidy income which probably helped finance the new bicycle leaning against the palm hut. Bicycles and Honda mopeds are status symbols in today's Kampuchea.

SVENSKA DAGBLADET asked the minister of agriculture how it fit in with communist ideology to allow such a free market--there are also private restaurants and shops in Phnom Penh.

Kong Sam Ol answered: "The government is setting up the state economy, but it cannot meet all needs. The market is good; it raises people's living standards. Things would not function otherwise."

He gave an example to back up his assertion:

"If you have a basket of sweet potatoes, you can sell it and buy sugarcane if that is what you need. People do not become capitalists or monopolists because of that."

We asked: "It has been reported in the Western press that there are Vietnamese settlements in Kandal Province, for example, and on the big lake, Tonle Sap. What about that?"

Kong Sam Ol's explanation was this: "They are Vietnamese who used to live in this country but fled in the time of Lon Nol or Pol Pot. They came here originally to work on the plantations during the French colonial period. So far, 55,000 have moved back, and that is only one-tenth of the number that used to live here."

Despite this year's big rice shortage, the minister of agriculture is optimistic about the future.

He says: "If the weather is good this year, perhaps we can become self-sufficient next year. But even if we have sufficient rice, that will not be enough. We also lack proteins and vitamins, which people need so they can work.

"It is true that we have a lot of fish in Tonle Sap, but we can only fish 3 months out of the year. And we have neither refrigerators, freezers, nor enough electricity to be able to store fish. They can be dried, but then the proteins are destroyed, and besides, eating dried fish is like eating a piece of wood."

Bertil Ekerlid is a freelance reporter who, along with his other work, has been contributing articles to SVENSKA DAGBLADET's Business Section for some time.

11798

CSO: 3650/183

LEADERS RECEIVE THANK-YOU MESSAGES FROM USSR

BK130555 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Comrade Chernenko recently sent a message expressing deep thanks to Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin for extending his warm greetings and congratulations to him on his election as chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR. The message reads, among other things:

I am deeply grateful for the warm greetings and congratulations you expressed to me on my election as chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR. I would like to express confidence that the close relations of friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and the PRK based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism will further develop and strengthen for the well-being of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Kampuchea and in the interest of peace and socialism.

On the same occasion, Comrade Nikolay Tikhonov also sent a thank-you message to Comrade Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers. The message reads:

Comrade, please accept my sincere gratefulness for the congratulations and greetings you expressed on my reelection as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. I am convinced that the friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the PRK will develop steadily in the interest of the peoples of our two countries and for peace and social progress.

Comrade Gromyko also sent a message in response to the congratulations and greetings extended to him on his election as minister of foreign affairs of the USSR. The message reads:

Comrade, please accept my sincere thankfulness for the warm congratulations and greetings you expressed on my election as minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

CSO: 4212/49



## MARCH, APRIL ACTIONS AGAINST ENEMY FORCES NOTED

BK100730 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 10 May 84

## ["Weekly Roundup of Salient Events"]

[Excerpt] During April and late March alone, we put 2,421 enemy soldiers out of action, including 1,824 killed, 163 wounded, 341 captured, and 93 who surrendered. We seized 957 assorted weapons, 499 mines, 233 metric tons of ammunitions, 74 metric tons of rice, 371 boats, 3 field radio sets, a quantity of war materiel, and 5 caches of B-40 rockets.

In fact, at a point northwest of Mondolkiri, we attacked the hide-out of the enemy's 920th Division, killing 61 enemy soldiers, capturing 16, wounding 11 others, seizing 37 weapons and a field radio, and destroying 400 barracks.

On 28 March, the 9th Unit of the 339th Battalion searched for the enemy 14 km northwest of Phteah Pram Khnang, killing 13 enemy soldiers and seizing 2 weapons, 7 metric tons of rice, and 2 field radio sets.

On 31 March, we stumbled on an enemy group 18 km northeast of Kulen, killing seven of them, wounding eight others, and seizing two weapons.

On 4 April, we launched an offensive against Ampil base, killing 206 enemy soldiers and seizing 88 weapons, including 8 DKZ's and 12.7mm machineguns.

On 14 April, our border defense guards besieged and attacked the base of the so-called 912th Division of the bandits at (Trayeng), killing 120 of them; [seizing] 21 metric tons of tice; and shooting down a Thai plan that overflew the area in an attempt to provide cover and pinpoint targets for the bandits.

At the same time, the regional forces of the border provinces also carried out carried out activities to sweep the bandits without letup. From 26 March to 5 April, in cooperation with the Vietnamese Army volunteers, after grasping the pattern of the enemy's movement our forces launched sweeping operations in the vicinity of Chikreng, Kompong Kdei, and Prey Chas, killing 152 bandits, capturing 76, persuading 6 others to surrender, and seizing 77 assorted weapons and 371 boats.

CSO: 4212/49

## REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 7-13 MAY

BK140909 [Editorial Report] Kampuchean media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments during the reporting period 7-13 May:

National level: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1120 GMT on 13 May reports that up to the beginning of this month, Agriculture Ministry tractor operators plowed 22,700 of the 140,000 hectares of land planned for this rainy season cultivation. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 7 May reports that during the 1st quarter of this year, the veterinary service vaccinated over 91,500 head of cattle against epizootic diseases.

Kandal Province: Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 7 May reports that people in Dangkao District plan to grow 9,500 hectares of rainy season rice. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 11 May reports that over 1,400 hectares of rice were harvested in Kien Svay District, yielding 3-6 metric tons per hectare. Over 3,000 hectares of corn and over 3,000 hectares of dry season rice were planted.

Svay Rieng Province: Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 7 May reports that peasants in the province plan to grow 141,000 hectares of rainy season rice. At 1100 GMT on 10 May, the radio presents a statement by Seu Samut, vice chairman of the provincial people's revolutionary committee, on achievements made by the province in the 1st quarter of this year. Over 19,500 metric tons of paddy were purchased from the people, over 50,000 hectares of fallow land are to be reclaimed, and over 1,100 hectares of land have so far been tilled for rice growing.

Kampot Province: At 0430 GMT on 7 May, the radio reports that salt miners in the province gathered over 154,000 metric tons of salt during the 1st quarter of this year.

Kompong Thom Province: Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 9 May reports that at the end of 1983, peasants in the province built 54 dikes, 18 ditches, and 7 field embankments. They also repaired 22 ditches and 30 field embankments. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1120 GMT on 13 May reports that the province now has 155,900 head of cattle, 39,700 pigs, and 264,500 chickens and ducks.

Takeo Province: Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 11 May reports that the provincial agricultural service sent 18 tractors to plow land in Kaoh Andet District. Over 2,100 hectares of land in Krapum Chhuk and Prey Yuthka communes were thus tilled.

Prey Veng Province: Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 12 May reports that by early May, the provincial trade service purchased paddy from the people 9 percent above the plan. Over 1,800 metric tons of paddy in Kompong Trabek District, over 600 metric tons of paddy in Kamchay Mea District, and over 400 metric tons of paddy in Baphnum District were sold to the state above the plan. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1120 GMT on 13 May reports that during this dry season, peasants in the province planted 22,400 hectares of rice and 5,700 hectares of subsidiary and industrial crops.

Kompong Chhnang Province: SPK French at 1120 GMT on 13 May reports that during March, the veterinary service of Toek Phos District vaccinated 2,530 head of cattle against various diseases.

Phnom Penh: SPK French at 1120 GMT on 13 May reports that up to the end of April, fishermen in Phnom Penh caught over 810 metric tons of fish. They made 50 metric tons of fermented fish and thousands of liters of fish sauce. People in Phnom Penh also raised over 1,540,000 young fish.

Pursat Province: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0409 GMT on 13 May reports that at the end of April, peasants in the province plowed over 3,500 hectares of land. This year, the province plans to grow crops on 80,000 hectares of land. The provincial veterinary service vaccinated 13,000 head of cattle against epizootic diseases.

CSO: 4212/49

BRUNEI FOREIGN MINISTER THANKS KHIEU SAMPHAN

BK090414 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in  
Cambodian 2300 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] On 21 April, Prince Mohamad Bolkiah, foreign minister of Negara Brunei Darussalam, sent a message to thank Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, for his greetings on the occasion of the independence of Negara Brunei Darussalam. The message reads:

Negara Brunei Darussalam, 21 April 1984

To His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs:

Excellency,

I have the honor to express my thanks to Your Excellency for sending your message No AE 84/167 of 18 February 1984, warmly expressing your greetings on the occasion of the independence of Negara Brunei Darussalam. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Kampuchean people and the CGDK. I also would like to present my best wishes, those of the government and the people of Negara Brunei Darussalam to the Kampuchean people, the CGDK, and Your Excellency. May Your Excellency, the Kampuchean people, and the CGDK achieve peace, progress, and prosperity.

In foreign relations, Negara Brunei Darussalam stands on the basic principle of respecting the sovereignty of other countries and not interfering in other countries' internal affairs. Concerning relations with Democratic Kampuchea, the Government of Negara Brunei Darussalam will closely cooperate with fellow ASEAN members. I hope the existing good relations between our two countries will be developed.

Would Your Excellency accept my guarantee and my highest considerations?

[Signed] Prince Mohamad Bolkiah, foreign minister of Negara Brunei Darussalam.

CSO: 4212/49

## BRIEFS

**YOUTH ARMY VOLUNTEERS**--Youths in Kang Meas District, Kompong Cham Province, gave up personal gains and volunteered to serve in the army with a high patriotic conscience, determination, and class anger at the Pol Pot-Sihanouk-Son Sann bandits. In fact, recently, 95 youths of Kang Meas District volunteered to serve in the army. Of this number, 23 youths were assigned to the security forces of Kompong Cham Province. Moreover, our youths have actively contributed to the production efforts of the people. They have cooperated in reclaiming over 1,300 hectares of land. This acreage has now been transformed into prosperous red corn orchards. The youths of Kang Meas District also emulate daily in learning to read and write the national language in order to further improve their capacity for understanding. [Text] [BK060952 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 May 84]

**'BANDITS' KILLED IN MONDOLKIRI**--In addition to launching a production drive to restore the national economy, the people in Mondolkiri Province, in close cooperation with the province's security forces, have fought valiantly to defend their localities. From January to April 1984, our people and forces in this province killed over 500 Pol Pot bandits who attempted to rob our people and burn down their property; wounded 52; captured 7; and seized 200 assorted weapons and a quantity of war materiel. [Text] [BK110650 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 11 May 84]

**HUNGARIAN THANKS CHEA SIM**--Recently, Comrade Antal Apro, president of the National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic, sent a message to thank Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly, for his greetings on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Hungarian National Liberation day. The message stresses: I am confident that good relations and successful cooperation between our two countries and peoples will be steadily developed for the interests of our two peoples and progressive mankind. [Text] [BK170254 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 16 May 84]

**YONG-NAM MESSAGE TO SAMPHAN**--[April 14 greetings message from Kim Yong Nam, DPRK vice premier and foreign minister, to Khieu Samphan, Democratic Kampuchean vice president in charge of foreign affairs, on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the founding of Democratic Kampuchea] To His Excellency Khieu Samphan, Democratic Kampuchean vice president in charge of foreign affairs: I would like to extend warmest greetings to Your Excellency on



the occasion of Democratic Kampuchea's national day. Availing myself of this occasion, I would like to extend best wishes to Your Excellency and the fraternal Kampuchean people for greater victories in your struggle for the total liberation of Kampuchea and for a new independent, neutral, and non-aligned Kampuchea. [Signed] Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister of the DPRK [Dated] Pyongyang, 14 April 1984 [Text] [BK050633 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 4 May 84]

KIM IL-SONG THANKS KHIEU SAMPHAN--["8 May" message of thanks from DPRK President Kim Il-song to DK Vice President Khieu Samphan] Excellency Khieu Samphan, Democratic Kampuchean vice president in charge of foreign affairs: I would like to express profound thanks to you for the message of warm congratulations and best wishes for the consolidation of our people's unity in reunifying our fatherland that you sent to me on behalf of the Kampuchean people and the CGDK and in your own name on the occasion of my 72d birthday. On this occasion, I wish you and the Kampuchean people great victories in your struggle for an independent and nonaligned Kampuchea and for Kampuchea's territorial integrity. [Signed] Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Pyongyang, 8 May 1984. [Text] [BK160148 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 15 May 84]

DEFECTORS IN BATTAMBANG--Phnom Penh, 15 May (SPK)--During the first 4 months of the year, becoming well aware of the lenient policy of the Kampuchean party and state, 58 former Sereika and Pol Pot elements rallied to the people's power in Sangke District, Battambang Province, more than 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh. They brought along 19 Chinese-made assault rifles, 4 grenades, more than 1,700 rounds of ammunition, and other war materiel. They declared that they had been fed up with the reactionary groups and with the dissensions which divided them. Since the beginning of the year, the number of the returnees has increased considerably compared with the previous years. [Text] [BK150724 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0358 GMT 15 May 84]

CHEA SOTH INSPECTION TOUR--Phnom Penh, 7 May (SPK)--Chea Soth, Politburo member of the KPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning, recently made an inspection tour of Pearaing District, Prey Veng Province, east of Phnom Penh. In a meeting with officials, combatants, students and peasants in the district, Chea Soth hailed the achievements recorded by the local population since liberation. He denounced the dark schemes of the so-called tripartite coalition government led by Sihanouk, puppet of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists. Chea Soth called on the population to uphold patriotism and national unity, promote agricultural production and develop education thus contributing to national defence and construction and taking the country towards socialism. [Text] [BK071434 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1140 GMT 7 May 84]

CSO: 4200/750

EDITORIAL ON DIEN BIEN PHU VICTORY ANNIVERSARY

BK121538 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0400 GMT 7 May 84

[Unattributed editorial: "The Dien Bien Phu Spirit Lives Forever!"]

[Text] Thirty years ago--on 7 May 1954--the dare-to-attack-and-to-win banner given to the Vietnam people's armed forces by President Ho Chi Minh was flying majestically over the French imperialists' fortress at Dien Bien Phu as the culmination of the 1953-54 dry season offensive simultaneously launched on the battlefields of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea. The great victory at Dien Bien Phu concluded the miraculous resistance of the three peoples in Indochina against the aggression of the French colonialists who were supported by the U.S. imperialists. Subsequently, peace was restored to Indochina. The victory opened an era of bankruptcy for the colonialist system throughout the world.

The Dien Bien Phu victory is 30 years old today. The victory still resounds throughout the world and is a great encouragement to all movements struggling against all forms of oppression. All national liberation movements still regard this victory as a great example to consolidate their confidence in fulfilling their just revolutionary struggles. Even though the Dien Bien Phu victory was 30 years ago, its effect still remains very strong. It acts like a bell ringing to warn the colonialist imperialists that they must never underestimate the strength of nations which have united as one to take up arms to fight them.

Our entire party, army and people highly value the great achievements scored by the heroic Vietnamese party, army and people in the 1953-54 dry season offensive at Dien Bien Phu. We regard this victory as the most significant contribution to countries the historic turn of the revolutions in the three Indochinese countries and throughout the world. We highly value the excellent achievements scored by the Kampuchean people and revolutionary armed forces, especially those in northeastern Kampuchea, for contributing to the victories scored during the 1953-54 dry season and the Dien Bien Phu victory. We are very proud of the heroic Lao people and the Itsala army--now the current heroic LPA--for closely coordinating with the Vietnamese volunteer armed forces and Vietnamese people to score excellent achievements as a direct contribution to the 1953-54 dry season's victories and the Dien Bien Phu

victory, thereby turning the Lao battlefield into the graveyard of the Navarre plan and smashing the aggressive designs of the French and U.S. imperialists.

The Dien Bien Phu victory created a legitimate status for the Lao revolutionary armed forces in carrying out their political life both at home and abroad. The victory created important material and moral conditions for the Lao army and people to march forward to score a complete victory in their resistance against the U.S. imperialists.

The Dien Bien Phu victory will last forever. It was the overall achievement and victory and the glorious culmination of all the achievements and victories scored by the three Indochinese peoples in their protracted resistance against the French imperialist aggressors. It was also the common victory of all oppressed peoples throughout the world.

It was the first time in the history of mankind that an oppressed nation which was also a very weak colony was able to defeat a rich and strong colonialist imperialist country to regain its independence. Such was this victory of internationalist significance. The Dien Bien Phu spirit will last forever. The more it marches into history, the more glorious it becomes and the more profoundly it testifies to its own virtue. Today, it remains a victory of epochal significance and a valuable lesson for all nations.

The Dien Bien Phu victory has proved that a nation which has no vast territory and has a small population and whose economy is very poor, but which has close unity, is led by a genuine Marxist-Leninist party, has a correct revolutionary and military line, wisely uses revolutionary violence, knows how to arm the entire people, builds its armed forces into a strong army, has a glorious strategic command, knows how to issue strategic orders in a prompt manner, and has a sense of offensive initiative will always be able to consolidate the national and epochal strength. The three Indochinese countries--Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos--have further enhanced this great truth in the past 30 years by scoring new victories in defeating the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists.

The Dien Bien Phu victory reflected the strength of the close militant solidarity of the three Indochinese peoples, which has become the common decisive factor for the whole Indochinese battlefield and for the battlefield in each country. The imperialists regard Indochina as single battlefield. Therefore, the militant alliance of the three Indochinese revolutions still remains necessary and a law. The Lao-Vietnamese militant alliance has been tested and tempered in a protracted struggle and has proved its value by contributing to numerous glorious victories. It has become a decisive factor for the survival of each nation, a glorious and firm law which cannot be matched by any other alliance.

In the 1953-54 dry season, the battlefields in Indochina were conducted through a common strategic scheme. As a result, numerous glorious achievements and victories were scored. The enemies were subsequently driven into



defensive positions on all fronts. By then, the stage was set for the Dien Bien Phu campaign to score complete victory.

The Dien Bien Phu victory testified to the fact that if victory is to be won on the battlefield, the armed forces must be built into a consolidated unit and a people's war must be conducted on the basis of allowing the entire people to defend the country. At the same time, the people's armed forces whose mainstay is the regular forces must develop a high spirit of daring to attack and daring to win. They must be fully armed and geared and well-trained. They cadres must be capable.

Based on the notion of using the entire masses to attack the enemy, the people's armed forces of the Indochinese countries were built by the CPV [as heard]. All small and large resistance organizations of Laos and Kampuchea, which carried out movements with excellent plans, effectively coordinated combat activities. Especially, the Vietnam people's army organized several divisions of regular forces whose combat mobility and standards were perfect. These divisions became the decisive steel factor in winning victory.

During the 1953-54 dry season fighting and the Dien Bien Phu campaign, our revolutionary combatants persevered to overcome all unprecedentedly fierce and uncompromising trials. They overcame all difficulties and shortcomings in making long marches to fight the enemy. They had a rifle in one hand and a shovel in the other. Dien Bien Phu showed that the strength of the entire resistance people was a firm rear which ensured victory for the frontline in the fighting.

The assistance and support from the fraternal socialist countries and all peace- and justice-loving peoples throughout the world were the most important factor for the resistance of the Indochinese peoples. The strength of the political and ideological mobilization from the vast rears of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea was a great encouragement to the frontline combatants. Hundreds of thousands of people trekked through rugged paths to serve the frontline. They had no fear for their lives for they only followed the motto: There is nothing more sacred than independence and freedom, and everything is for winning victories for the dry season offensive and the Dien Bien Phu campaign. Standing side by side with the Indochinese peoples, all progressive mankind rendered support and assistance to our struggle. They closely followed and greatly rejoiced at our victories.

The current situation is much different from 30 years ago. The three Indochinese peoples have now defeated the U.S. imperialists and the Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists. They have regained national independence and national unification, and are now building their countries along the socialist path. No reactionary force can obstruct this development. National liberation movements have simultaneously sprung up throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. Several countries have scored victories and are marching along the socialist path, thus driving neocolonialism into a position of bankruptcy.

Though suffering heavy defeats, the colonialist imperialists and the international reactionaries have not yet abandoned the scheme to oppose the revolutionary movements, aimed at recouping their lost status. The Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists have colluded with the U.S. imperialists in pursuing a policy of aggression to swallow the three Indochinese countries, waging a multifaceted war of aggression to achieve their scheme.

To commemorate the Dien Bien Phu victory this year, let our entire party, army and people realize more profoundly the strategic duties of the Lao revolution during the current period as outlined by the Third Party Congress. That is, we must strive to defend and build our country into a socialist entity. We must be determined to fulfill our national defense and public security duties, and build revolutionary foundations by encouraging the entire masses to defend the country and to maintain public security. We must build the people's armed forces into a strong army in the ideological, organizational and combat domains. We must hold aloft a sense of revolutionary vigilance, strive to resist the sabotage war in all respects, and be prepared to cope with a war of aggression which may be waged by the enemy. We must be resolute to fulfill the economic, cultural and social state plan so as to rapidly normalize and develop the national economy and to improve the living conditions of the people. We must be determined to build foundations for the party and administration in urban areas.

The lessons drawn from the Dien Bien Phu victory show the need to constantly strengthen the militant alliance among Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea so as to strengthen the outpost of the socialist system in Southeast Asia and to defeat all enemies. We must increase our militant solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries and our solidarity with peace-loving forces throughout the world.

We must highly enhance the spirit of Dien Bien Phu in all revolutionary movements. In the past, we managed to defeat the enemies in the war, now, we must fulfill the tasks of defending and building our country. Imperialism and hegemonism will certainly be defeated if they remain obdurate and frenzied and fail to learn from the Dien Bien Phu lesson.

CSO: 4206/125

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT GREETES SRV EDUCATORS

BK040929 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 4 May 84

[Text] On the morning of 3 May, Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, received a courtesy call from a delegation of the Vietnamese Education Ministry led by Deputy Education Minister Ho Truc. Accompanying the delegation was Lao Deputy Education Minister Uttama Chounlamani. Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to Laos, also jointed the delegation in paying a courtesy call on Phoumi Vongvichit on this occasion.

During the conversation which continued in an atmosphere of very close friendship, Phoumi Vongvichit highly appreciated the past as well as the present relations, cooperations, and mutual assistance between the Education Ministries of Laos and Vietnam, which have been widely developed with each passing day in the interest of the peoples of the two countries.

On the morning of the same day, Ho Truc and Uttama Chounlamani jointly signed a document on the implementation of the protocol on educational cooperation between the LPDR and the SRV education ministries for 1984. The two sides agreed to give mutual cooperation on the scientific studies, the exchanges of documents, the building of auxiliary cadres in the field of material and technical foundations, and the assistance in the review of educational work in the period of 10 years—from 1975 to 1985.

Attending the signing ceremony of the document were Education Minister Prof Bountiam Phitsamai and Ambassador Nguyen Xuan together with cadres concerned from both sides.

CSO: 4206/125

## FARMERS REAPING 'GOOD' DRY SEASON RICE CROP

BK141414 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 11 May 84

["Feature": "Dry Season Rice Harvest Movement"]

[Text] After coping with warm and cold spells in the dry season rice cycle in many provinces, and on the basis of self-reliance and self-sufficiency in food supply, our farmers are now energetically and joyously harvesting their rice. The rice harvest is nearly complete, and a joyous harvest atmosphere is prevailing on all dry season ricefields which are cloaked in golden grain. In the fields, groups of farmers work busily to collect the rice with a sense of diligence.

For example, farmers in Vientiane Municipality have largely completed the rice harvest on some 5,000 hectares of land, notably in Sisattanak, Hatsaifong and Saithani districts. Agricultural cooperatives of Ban Lat Khouai and Ban Na Khouai villages in Saisettha District and of Saphang Thong-1 and Saphang Thong-2 villages in Sisattanak District have already completed the harvest. Ban Let Khouai and Ban Na Khouai agricultural cooperatives have managed to reap a good harvest ranging from 3-5 tons of paddy per hectare.

Farmers in Nasaithong District are currently energetically harvesting their rice crops on 448 hectares. It is expected that the harvest this year will be more productive than last year because the farmers have thoroughly relied on irrigation facilities in growing rice, and agricultural cadres and administrative committees at all levels have paid close attention and provided guidance to the farmers on production techniques.

The dry season rice harvest movement in Hatsaifong District is also very energetic. For example, farmers at Dong Dou agricultural cooperative are busily working in cutting rice ears and taking them to rice threshing areas. The same is also true at Ban Kang and other agricultural cooperatives where farmers cannot allow this productive moment to pass by.

All these activities clearly show the enthusiasm and perseverance of Lao farmers in carrying out dry season rice growing in order to improve their living conditions and strengthen the national economy to become the strength for developing other tasks for the country. The faces of our farmers today clearly show that they are proud of their prosperous future.

CSO: 4206/125

## BRIEFS

VONGKHAMSAO RECEIVES EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR--On the afternoon of 3 May, Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, received a courtesy call from Fu'ad Hamdi 'Abd' al-Fattah, new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the LPDR, who recently presented credentials to the Lao president. On this occasion, Sali Vongkhamsao expressed a warm welcome to Fu'ad Hamdi 'Abd' al-Fattah for his designation to take the ambassadorial post in Laos. He also wished the ambassador success in performing his task to enhance the relations between the two countries and to bring good benefits to the two peoples. The meeting and conversation between the guest and the host proceeded in a warm atmosphere. [Text] [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 4 May 84]

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS--On the afternoon of 2 May, a delegation of the CPSU Central Committee's Commission for the Supervision of Administrative Machinery led by (Obenlensev), deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee's personnel committee in charge of the administrative work, left Vientiane for home after over 1-week visit to the LPDR. During the visit, the delegation called on Phoun Sipaseut, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs. It also visited other Lao party and state leaders and exchanged views on many issues with a delegation of the office of the LPRP Central Committee. In addition, the Soviet delegation visited some production establishments and historical places in Vientiane Province and Municipality. [Text] [BK040925 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 4 May 84]

CSO: 4206/125

## BRIEFS

CHINESE ASSOCIATION REINSTATES LEADERS--The Extraordinary General Meeting [EGM] of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] today passed all the five resolutions on its agenda. They included the reinstating of the 14 expelled leaders, the setting up of an ad hoc committee to look into the membership issue, and another, annulling and declaring as void the order of suspension and expulsion of members, branches, and divisions made after 18 March this year. The meeting also recorded its strong protest and dissatisfaction about the leadership of the acting president, Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan. Our reporter, (Paul Cheng), said that delegates delivered strongly worded speeches on the resolutions. The spirit of the delegates was high, but the meeting was orderly while tight security checks were imposed at the venue. The first two resolutions, relating to the reinstatement of the expelled leaders and the setting up of a committee received only 7 votes against, compared with 1,607 for it. The voting was by secret ballot. [Excerpt] [BK061415 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 6 May 84]

CS0: 4200/725

BRIEFS

COUNTRY'S INTERESTS IN LIBYA--Berne, 1 May (AFP)--Switzerland has agreed to look after New Zealand's interests in Libya which were formerly the concern of Britain, Deputy Foreign Minister (Achille Casanova) said here today. Britain broke off relations with Tripoli following the shooting of a policewoman outside the Libyan Embassy in London last month. Switzerland's assumption of the role is subject to approval by the Libyan Government. At present Berne is looking after the interests of other countries in 17 cases throughout the world. [Text] [NC011422 Paris AFP in English 1336 GMT 1 May 84]

CSO: 4200/728



## VERITAS EDITORIAL ON IMELDA'S ROME PILGRIMAGE

Quezon City VERITAS in English 29 Apr-5 May 84 p 4

[Editorial: "A Pilgrimage to Rome"]

[Text]

**T**O go to Rome on pilgrimage during a Holy Year, or any year for that matter, is a joyous privilege granted few Filipino Catholics. To be able to visit the Holy City these days, when most people would need an IMF loan to travel abroad and dollars are scarcer than a hen's teeth, as Finance Minister Virata well knows, is the rarest of privileges indeed.

For the First Lady, Human Settlements Minister Imelda Marcos, her trip to the center of Catholicism was twice or even thrice privileged — her pilgrimage coincided not only with Holy Week, but with the closing rites of the Holy Year marking the 1,950th anniversary of the Redemption of the human race; and on top of all that, it was to be her privilege, she announced solemnly at the airport shortly before she flew off on a PAL jetliner, "to represent the only Catholic nation in Asia in observance of the Holy Year."

Her privileged pilgrimage was thus both a happy and a somber visit to the Vatican and Christendom's most venerable shrine. The New Republic media reported it all faithfully, so that the faithful of this Catholic nation, whether KBL or Opposition or Roy-NP, who could make the trip with their self-appointed representative only in spirit, were in turn privileged to meditate on the press reports, photographs and TV film devoted to Mrs. Marcos' "Holy Year-Holy Week pilgrimage," as it was called by the devout correspondents in her entourage.

The First Lady's retinue included about a dozen bishops and priests, as well as prominent laymen, pillars of the Philippine Church like our Ambassador to the Vatican Bienvenido Tanco and wife Glecy, and PAL Chairman Roman Cruz, Jr. Channel 4's Easter special showed the group at Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, in the forefront of the vast congregation right behind the assembly of cardinals, with Mrs. Marcos wearing a regal sash and an aching, soulful expression as she prayed perhaps for those heartless, opportunist politicians back home who had prodded Mrs. Au-Au Manotoc to run in Makati and insisted on making Ninoy Aquino's murder an issue in the Batasan elections. Cardinal Sin, who had left for Rome earlier, didn't appear on TV,



having perhaps already flown home by then, to keep an appointment with other, less privileged Catholics fasting at the Ateneo in Quezon City "to topple the Marcos dictatorship and restore democracy."

The same TV film captured Minister Marcos walking purposefully beside Mother Teresa in the Holy Week throng inside St. Peter's Basilica or was it the Basilica of St. John Lateran, and bending to kiss John Paul's ring on what seemed to be three different occasions - images of ardent faith that no doubt added to the Easter joy of her flock in these Christian isles, the impoverished masses she has served and consoled all these 19 years that she has resided in Malacañang. Her devotees among the electorate must have felt their hearts quicken to read that the pilgrims, both clergy and Leyte, sang "Christus Vincit Regnat" and "Christus Imperat" for the Pope during their audience with him, and that the audience itself, all 30 minutes of it, was "truly inspired by the Holy Spirit," in the words of Ambassador Tantoco, as the Pope managed to meet with them on such short notice, "less than 24 hours" - during Holy Week yet, surely a very busy, not to say hectic, time for the Holy Father, the Bishop of Rome. The group also went to Assisi, where they visited no fewer than 12 churches, though seven, which is said to be her and her husband's favorite number, ought to have been enough.

Before Mrs. Marcos and Co. left Rome with their uplifting experiences and accumulated indulgences, Pope John Paul assured them that the Filipino people and their leaders would always have his "pastoral love and constant prayers."

The Filipino people have need of that love and those prayers more than ever as they proceed with their own pilgrimage - their long, anguished, dangerous but hopeful journey towards liberation and the reign of truth, justice, freedom and democracy.

VERITAS EDITORIAL ON INTERVIEW WITH BALWEG

Quezon City VERITAS in English 29 Apr-5 May 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Listening to Balweg"]

[Text] Perhaps, the VERITAS writer who trekked to the mountains to talk to Conrado Balweg was more than a journalist in search of a story. She represented a public whose curiosity about the NPA has focused on this priest, tribal leader and revolutionary.

In the mountains of the Cordillera, Balweg is a folk hero. In the public mind everywhere, his figure has assumed mythic proportions. Perhaps because so little is known of him, his name has come to suggest more than could be verified or documented about the man.

The interview then is an attempt to situate Balweg in time and place and, through him, approach an understanding of a compelling aspect of the national struggle and the painful option that some Filipinos have been forced to take.

There is a challenge implicit in their choice that cannot be ignored.

CSO: 4200/726

CPM INFLUENCE IN SOUTH SAID TO BE 'STILL STRONG'

BK140256 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 May 84 p 3

[By Soemsuk Kasitthipradit]

[Text] The Fourth Army Region will set up a forward headquarters in Yala Province to supervise and coordinate communist suppression operations if the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) threat has not subsided.

Region Commander Lt-Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong told the BANGKOK POST the threat posed by CPM guerrillas in the southern border provinces was quite serious, particularly in Yala where their influence was still strong.

He said if the situation did not improve this year, the Fourth Army Region would set up a forward headquarters in the province to direct suppression campaigns against the guerrillas.

In cooperation with Malaysian forces, Thai troops last month mounted an extensive offensive against guerrillas in the Betong salient and Bannang Sata and Than To districts. More than 1,000 regular troops and paramilitary rangers were mobilised in the operation which ended early this month.

Two communist camps were captured in the operation. Seven Thai soldiers were killed and more than 35 wounded, mostly by landmines and booby traps. Sporadic fighting was reported as the guerrillas avoided a direct confrontation.

Lt-Gen Wanchai said that under present circumstances, the Civilian-Police-Military Command 43 would take responsibility for security in the five southern provinces including Yala whereas the Thai combined forces would take charge of suppression activities along the Thai-Malaysian border.

Regarding the anti-CPM drive as top priority, the general said more personnel would be assigned to undertake the task.

He admitted that CPM (Marxist-Leninist) guerrillas were active in Betong, Bannang Sata and Than To districts of Yala, where their overall strength was estimated at 1,000 under arms.

Due to the expected escalation in the suppression drive, Lt-Gen Wanchai said he had requested an additional budget from the government.

The planned headquarters would be similar to the one in Surat Thani Province set up a few years ago by former commanding general of the Fourth Army Region, Gen Han Linanon, to direct suppression operation against insurgents of the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) in Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani provinces.

Lt-Gen Wanchai said the idea had proved successful.

CSO: 4200/750

CARDINAL DISCUSSES POPE'S IMPENDING VISIT

LK060139 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 6 May 84 p 13

["Exclusive interview" with Cardinal Michai Kitbunchu, "Thailand's First Catholic Cardinal," by Wee Soo Chaeng--date, place not given]

[Excerpt] Q: What will be the significance of the pope's visit here?

A: First of all, the pope's visit will be of great benefit from the pastoral point of view. His visit will provide an opportunity for Catholic people in Thailand to see the pope--to listen to his words. His visit will serve to enrich the spiritual lives of the Catholic people.

Another objective of the pope's visit here is to pay a "return" visit to Their Majesties the King and Queen. As you may know, Their Majesties have paid a visit to Pope John XXIII before and so this will be a good opportunity for the pope to return that visit.

The third reason: The Catholic Church also tries to promote the friendship and good understanding between itself and other religions in any country.

The last reason for the pope's visit is because the pope himself as well as the Catholic Church has often expressed a great concern and compassion for the Indochinese refugees who are in Thailand.

Q: What about the vast majority of Buddhists in Thailand--how do you think the pope's visit will affect them?

A: I think the Buddhist people in Thailand generally know of the pope and his role as the leader of the Catholic Church and I think that they understand that wherever the pope goes, he always emphasizes peace and human rights and Christian charity. I think that the pope is not a stranger for Thai people.

Q: Did the Bishops' Conference take into account the Buddhist majority and how they will be affected or might react, before making the decision to invite the pope here?

A: On this matter, I don't think the pope's visit will affect Thailand negatively. In fact, it will affect Thailand positively--Thailand will

become more known to the world--especially when the pope visits the refugee camp, I think the world will pay more attention to the problem of refugees.

Q: What does the Catholic Church hope to achieve by the pope's visit?

A: As I told you as soon as the pope's visit here was confirmed, the Bishops' Conference issued a pastoral letter suggesting that Catholics prepare themselves spiritually--to pray and to practice their faith. I think that is an important objective of the pope's visit as far as the church is concerned.

Q: Do you think that the pope's visit will help to convert more people to the Catholic faith?

A: We don't expect people to convert just because of the pope's visit. Conversion to the Catholic Church must come about through the conviction of the individual.

Q: Why did the pope accept the invitation to visit Thailand--What are his motives?

A: Several times I have told people who have asked me this question. The reason why the pope visits a certain country does not depend on the number of Catholics there. The present pope has a great desire to visit his Catholic people in every corner of the world--even in countries where there are only a few of them. He has a duty to look after all Catholics and by visiting them, he is performing part of his duty.

Q: Is one of the aims of the pope's visit to focus world attention on the Indochinese refugee problem?

A: You are right.

Q: Is this why he is going to visit the (Phanat Nikhom) [parentheses as published] refugee camp?

A: You are right.... One of the reasons for the pope's visit here is to express his deep concern for the refugees. I do believe that he will appeal to the world to solve this problem and to support and help ease the burden of the Government of Thailand.

Q: Will he make an official address to this effect during his visit here?

A: I do believe so.

Q: When is he most likely to do this?

A: I think he will give a talk while he is visiting the refugee camp itself and also during a reception which he will attend at Government House on the evening of the 11th--I think he will bring it up there as well.

CSO: 4200/750



DEBTS 'LIKELY' TO FORCE CHANGES IN ESD PLAN

BK160244 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 May 84 pp 1, 3

[By Chatchai Yenbamrung]

[Text] Crippling foreign debts are likely to force major changes to the 100,000 million baht Eastern Seaboard Development (ESD) plan and key projects could be scaled down or postponed, the BANGKOK POST was told yesterday.

Government planners and economists fear that the enormous financial burden incurred by the programme could outweigh the benefits to be derived from it.

The joint private-public sector investors would rely heavily on foreign borrowing, thus aggravating the steadily increasing overseas debt burden.

A team of National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) economists is reviewing the programme in light of the foreign debts and a package of recommendations is likely to be put to Cabinet and the ESD Committee soon.

The report will first go to NESDB chief Dr Sano Unakun who is known to have the ear of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulann, the chairman of the Eastern Seaboard Committee.

Concern for the scheme has already prompted the Industrial Estate Authority to reconsider the Map Taphut deep-sea port and industrial estate projects. The cost of the port, which can handle vessels of up to 100,000 tons, is estimated at 3,000 million baht, and it is unlikely to be used to capacity.

Accumulated foreign debts total about 250,000 million baht, and of this some 160,000 million baht was incurred by the public sector.

When last year's exports fell short, the government's debt service ratio (repayment of principal and interest) against net foreign exchange earnings exceeded the nine percent ceiling set to keep the economy under control.

The Cabinet recently approved in secret a Finance Ministry proposal to exempt it from the nine percent restriction.

With the private sector brought into the picture, Thailand is repaying about 20 percent of the value of total export earnings, or around 40,000 million baht annually.

According to a senior government economist, if the level of repayments exceeds 25 percent of total export earnings, problems will emerge. "Things could get out of control. There is a Philippines lesson to learn," he said.

A senior NESDB official said the government was putting the money aside to promote industries which have little chance of matching foreign competition.

The seaboard plan calls for the construction of two deep-sea ports with related infrastructure and communications, two industrial estates, a natural gas separation plant, petrochemical and fertilizer complexes.

The government is responsible for building the infrastructure and other basic facilities to develop the seaboard, at an estimated cost of 25,000 million baht.

Thailand is seeking more than 7,000 million baht in long-term loans to finance the project from the Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund this year and Japan has shown interest in providing soft loans.

According to the official, industrial projects which could be in jeopardy include petrochemical and fertilizer plants using natural gas in Gulf of Thailand. He said they may no longer be cost effective in view of the current global oil glut.

"We started this project at the time when everybody was thinking the oil price would go up to \$100 a barrel," said another economist. "We can't stick to the same assumptions when circumstances have changed so drastically."

Since oil prices had dropped and the trend seemed likely to continue, he said, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries could break up and the quota system be scrapped.

Petrochemical and fertilizer markets were very competitive and Thailand would be unable to compete on the international market, he said.

"The major factor is the oil price. The plan would benefit the country in the long run, but the question is whether the timing is right," he said.

A local fertilizer importer echoed this view, saying the Thai-made product would lose its edge because of higher production costs.

CSO: 4200/750

## BRIEFS

DRIVE AGAINST SOUTHERN COMMUNISTS--[Statement by Commander of Combined Civilian-Police-Military Unit 43 Colonel Chamnong Phairot on the results of the suppression operation launched in Yaha District, Yala Province, from 21 April to 5 May--date and place not given; recorded] We dispatched three units on the operation. The first comprised the marine task force from the south. The second and third units comprised infantrymen. They were respectively deployed for operations in Sisakhon District, Narathiwat Province; Yaha District, Yala Province; and Bannang Sata District, Yala Province. Three clashes were reported with guerrillas of the Communist Party of Malaya [CPM]. We have seized four major camps and two makeshift camps of the CPM guerrillas. Our side was hit five times by land mine explosions. A helicopter was shot at but no incident occurred. We captured four arms caches and two large farm projects. We had 18 soldiers and one ranger volunteer wounded. The enemy also had a number of killed and wounded. We could not take their bodies because of difficult terrain but we are certain about the enemy's casualties because the fighting took place at close range. [Text] [BK141435 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 14 May 84]

CSO: 4207/148

WESTERN SAMOA'S 'ECONOMIC MIRACLE' APPLAUDED

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 23 Apr 84 p 6

[Editorial: "A Small Economic Miracle"]

[Text] Western Samoa's fortunes have enjoyed a dramatic improvement in the past year that serves as an economic example to its South Pacific neighbours.

Two years ago the country's external indebtedness was approaching one and a half times its modest annual overseas earnings. Climatic calamities and poor returns for primary produce made the future bleak. A United Nations report classified Western Samoa as one of the more impoverished nations of the world.

In a remarkably short time since then the exchequer has taken on a rosier glow. The Government of Tofilau Eti took office a year ago, took economic advice readily, and took the palatable action that was required. Tough austerity measures, including a 17.5 percent devaluation, have begun to show dividends. Export earnings have improved 73 percent and \$20 million in foreign debt is repaid.

The country's problems are far from solved. Drought and the Savaii fire last year have dealt a heavy blow to the hope of diversified future earnings from forestry. High present commodity prices cannot be relied on with certainty. Nevertheless projections for this year are even healthier and the returns are building a wider base with airport extensions and tourism promotion.

The Government and its advisers deserve credit for all they have already achieved and for their foresight in broadening Western Samoa's horizons.

CSO: 4200/716

## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### HA TUYEN PEOPLE HELP BUILD BORDER PROJECTS

BK091029 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] In order to increase the fighting capability of various strongholds and build an increasingly firm border defense line, organizations, sectors, and the people of various nationalities in Ha Tuyen Province are enthusiastically contributing their efforts to build seven projects for various border strongholds. The Ha Tuyen Party Committee resolution has stressed that this is the task and obligation of all party members, Armed Forces, and people of the province toward combatants at front-line strongholds which is aimed at increasing the strength of the border defense line and resolutely foiling all schemes and acts of provocation, sabotage, and aggression of the Chinese reactionaries.

Implementing the provincial motto: "The state and the people work together, the entire province integrates efforts to work," over the past several months the people of various nationalities in Ha Tuyen Province have contributed tens of thousands of man-days to building the seven projects. Various localities, organizations, and enterprises have carefully carried out each project and each assigned task.

To date, the people of various nationalities in the province--the key force in transporting materials and building roads to strongholds--have spent more than 65,000 man-days building almost 60,000 cubic meters of stone dirt and 6 roads leading to a number of strongholds almost 50 km long. Various construction, engineering, and material production enterprises north of the province have joined their efforts in building hundreds of firm trenches for strongholds, constructing 6,000 square meters of rather firm, strong living quarters for combatants. The water conservancy construction corporation has built many water pools and installed water pipes to supply water to combatants in two districts. The provincial postal service has, together with the local people and soldiers, installed hundreds of kilometers of communications lines for strongholds to ensure effective communications and transportation.

Cadres and workers of the forestry sector have cut thousands of bed boards for combatants and provided them with seeds to plant trees near their strongholds. Various material supply organizations of the province have supplied

materials set to exact specification and quantity. The provincial labor force will ensure the completion of various projects according to plan and schedule.

Upholding the cooperation spirit and for the fatherland's front-line strongholds, various sectors have closely cooperated with one another to integrate efforts on fulfilling these projects. Many comrades responsible for various agencies and sectors and directors of enterprises have conducted an on-the-spot study to design and build each project to suit the activities and combat duty of combatants at their strongholds.

The people of Ha Tuyen contend that the seven projects built for these strongholds are their love from the rear to the front-line combatants. These projects have been affirmed as property of the state and the local people.

The building of the seven projects at various strongholds in Ha Tuyen according to the set plan is aimed at strengthening the fighting strength of these strongholds, gradually solving difficulties in the combatants' daily life, thereby encouraging them to love and pay more attention to the task of national defense and resolutely defeating the aggressive enemy.

CSO: 4209/274



## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

### HANOI CITES NHAN DAN ON U.S.-PRC RELATIONS

BK051008 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 3 May 84

[From the review of NHAN DAN for 3 May]

[Text] NHAN DAN today carries a commentary by (Le Binh) entitled: "A Very Dangerous New Development in Sino-U.S. Relations." The commentary says: The biggest show put on in China by the White House chief was the one about peace. Reagan, who styled himself as a protector of peace, said that the friendly ties between the United States and China, aimed at checking the Soviet Union, are a guarantee to peace and stability in the Pacific and the world.

It is not necessary to rebut this lie. It is abhorrent to hear the Chinese leadership openly say that it shares the same views with Reagan. This means that China agrees with the U.S. Pacific strategy aimed at opposing the Soviet Union, the socialist countries, and the independence and sovereignty of nations in this region.

We do not have to dive deeply to understand the underwater part of an iceberg. Regarding Beijing's attitude, especially that of Deng Xiaoping who waited 2 years to meet with Reagan, we can clearly see the wicked and dangerous schemes of this avil collusion. On the vital problems of war and peace, Deng said that he did not object the U.S. effort to intensify the arms race to oppose the Soviet Union, a country which people all over the world recognize and are grateful to for its role as a bulwark for peace and revolution.

One fact that Beijing cannot conceal is the U.S. decision to sell arms to China. Why? As Reagan himself has declared: The trading of weapons is aimed at putting direct or indirect pressure on the Soviet Union.

Agreement has been reached between the two sides on the questions of coping with the Soviet Union; opposing the SRV, the PRK, and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan; and of dealing with the Korea issue. One should ask: What does such agreement amount to if not strategic cooperation? Newspapers in many Asian countries such as India and Indonesia have clearly said this is a Sino-U.S. strategic alliance aimed at opposing the Soviet Union and independent countries in Asia.

After the trip to China by Nakasone, Reagan's arrival in Beijing has obviously affirmed the U.S.-China-Japan collusion which poses a threat to peace and security in Asia and the Pacific. The Japanese paper YOMIURI wrote: The results of Reagan's visit and the progress achieved by Nakasone's trip have created close U.S.-Japan-China tripartite relations.

The commentary further says: The Beijing leadership fraudulently claimed that they did not want to make public the U.S. President's statements concerning a third country, but they themselves have persistently slandered Vietnam of invading China. They welcomed Reagan and saw him off with frenzied attacks along the Sino-Vietnamese border with the largest, most powerful force since their defeat in the war of aggression against Vietnam in February 1979. They also ordered their border military regions to full alert.

According to UPI, a Western diplomatic source said it would not be surprising if the Chinese side decided to escalate the fighting after the conclusion of Reagan's visit. The 1979 Sino-Vietnamese border was erupted 1 week after Deng Xiaoping returned home from his visit to the United States.

It is obvious that by pursuing its hostile policy toward Vietnam and continuing its multifaceted war of sabotage against our country, Beijing is proving itself to be the threat to peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Colluding with the U.S. imperialists, the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists are jeopardizing peace and revolution, especially by posing as revolutionaries.

The U.S.-China collusion is a convergence of the two most reactionary forces in our era. Their ambitions are very great. Reagan has stated that his China visit should be remembered for 1,000 years. This is more evidence of the wicked schemes of the U.S. and Chinese leaders against peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

Over the fundamental issues related to the objectives of the era, Beijing and Washington have attached to one other like the heads of magnetic poles in order to counter revolution. The Chinese reactionary strategy and policy have not been changed. The U.S.-China collusion in the economic, political, and military fields is advancing at a new pace that is very dangerous to all nations.

CSO: 4209/274

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

### NHAN DAN CITES FOREIGN OPINIONS OF PRC PROVOCATIONS

OWO51954 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 5 May 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Today's issue of NHAN DAN reports on world public opinion condemning China's aggressive acts against Vietnam.

On 4 May, TASS issued a statement denouncing Chinese troops' intrusions into Vietnamese territory. The statement stresses: Anyone wanting to teach a lesson to independent countries should remember the historic lessons. It is very shortsighted to think that the results and consequences of intrusions into Vietnam in 1984 will be different from those in 1979.

On 2 May, the LPDR Foreign Ministry issued a statement backing the SRV Foreign Ministry's 30 April statement, which condemned China for sending its troops on 28 and 29 April to nibble hills 1509, 772, and 233 in Vi Xuyen District, Ha Tuyen Province and conducting other armed provocations since early April. The statement reads: These Beijing rulers' acts constituted an extremely dangerous war escalation and a brazen violation of Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity and disturbed the security of Vietnam's northern border areas.

On 2 May, the PRK Foreign Ministry issued a statement pointing out: While increasing their support and assistance to Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries in carrying out criminal activities against the Kampuchean people along the Kampuchean-Thai border, the Chinese ruling circles have indicated that there are no criminal acts they will not stoop to, including the bloodiest acts against Vietnam and Kampuchea. When U.S. President Reagan was visiting China, these acts of Beijing were particularly aimed at pleasing the U.S. imperialists and at strengthening the collusion between the two ultrareactionary powers against the Soviet Union, the Indochinese countries, and the world revolutionary movement.

CSO: 4209/274

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

### BRIEFS

CUBAN RECEIVES FRIENDSHIP ORDER--Hanoi, VNA, 7 May--Vietnamese Ambassador to Cuba Hoang Luong has presented Vietnam's Friendship Order to Miguel Cano Blanco, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and secretary of Holguin Province's party committee, for his outstanding contributions to Vietnam's socialist construction and national defence and Cuba-Vietnam friendship and cooperation. Speaking at a presentation ceremony held at the office of Holguin Province's party committee on May 2, Miguel Cano Blanco, who was once the first president of the committee of the former province of Oriente for solidarity with Vietnam, expressed his joy at receiving Vietnam's high honour. He said: In whatever circumstances and whatever tasks, the Cuban people have sided and will always side with the fraternal Vietnamese people. [Text] [BK070819 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 7 May 84]

CPV DELEGATION TO GREECE--Hanoi, VNA, 8 May--A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Mrs Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the party Central Committee, has left here for Greece to attend the congress of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) to be held in Athens from May 10-13, 1984. It was invited by the PASOK Central Committee. [Text] [OW080815 Hanoi VNA in English 0733 GMT 8 May 84]

AUSTRIAN ENVOY ENDS TOUR--Hanoi, VNA, 8 May--Austrian Ambassador to Vietnam Edgar Selzer today made a farewell call on chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. Chairman Pham Van Dong had a cordial conversation with the Austrian ambassador. [Text] [OW082121 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 8 May 84]

TUNISIAN ENVOY ENDS TOUR--Hanoi, VNA, 8 May--Tunisian Ambassador to Vietnam Abder Raouf Ounaies today paid a farewell visit to chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. Chairman Pham Van Dong had a cordial talk with the Tunisian ambassador. [Text] [OW082129 Hanoi VNA in English 1546 GMT 8 May 84]

SRV ENVOY TO KUWAIT--Hanoi, VNA, 9 May--"The Kuwaiti Government and people know well the Vietnamese peoples heroic struggle for national liberation in the past as well as the present national defence and reconstruction," said amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah while receiving in Kuwait recently Vietnamese Ambassador Tran Van Thanh who had presented his

credentials to him. "I believe," the amir said, "that the friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further develop in many fields." He asked the Vietnamese ambassador to convey his regards to Vietnamese State Council President Truong Chinh. Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sabah al-Sabah have also cordially received Ambassador Tran Van Thanh. Ambassador Tran Van Thanh, representative of the Vietnamese Government and the finance minister and president of the Kuwait Fund also signed an agreement on supplementary credit and on Kuwait's financial assistance to Vietnam in the construction of the Dau Tieng Tay-ninh water reservoir. [Text] [OW100023 Hanoi VNA in English 1446 GMT 9 May 84]

DELEGATION MEETS SLOVAK OFFICIAL--Hanoi, VNA, 10 May--Gejza Slapka, presidium member of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee and first secretary of the party's committee of Bratislava, on Monday received the visiting delegation of the party and people's committees led by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of the Ho Chi Minh party organization. The same day, the delegation toured various heavy industry installations. On May 8, it visited the March 8th cotton spinning and weaving mill where more than 300 Vietnamese workers are receiving training. [Text] [OW102359 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 10 May 84]

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--Hanoi, VNA, 10 May--Newly accredited Brnst Illsing of the Republic of Austria on Monday presented his credentials to Vice-President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho. Vice-President Nguyen Huu Tho had a cordial talk with the Austrian ambassador. With Vice-President Nguyen Huu Tho were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and director of the office of the National Assembly and State Council Nguyen Viet Dung. [Text] [OW110053 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 10 May 84]

DIEN BIEN PHU COMMEMORATED--Hanoi, VNA, 10 May--"The Dien Bien Phu victory over French imperialism is a milestone in the history of world revolution. It has inspired generations of communists and revolutionaries not only in Asia but also throughout the entire world," said the message of greetings from the National Committee of the Communist Party of India (C.P.I.) to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. The Ethiopia-Vietnam friendship committee wrote in a message of greetings to its Vietnamese counterpart: "This historic military feat not only shattered the remnants of French colonialism in Indochina but was indeed a source of inspiration and encouragement to the masses who were chained under the yoke of imperialism and its servile crooks everywhere and opened new horizons for their total liberation." The message added that "this day is a reminder of the glorious achievements scored by the gallant Vietnamese people in the construction of a strong and just society." The paper "DAILY WORLD" of the Communist Party of U.S.A. said in a commentary that had the U.S. administration drawn a lesson from Dien Bien Phu, more than 200,000 young Americans would not have died uselessly. V. Chalupa, president of the Czechoslovakia-Vietnam friendship association, said in his message of greetings that Dien Bien Phu reflects the revolutionary heroism of the Vietnamese people and serves as a guarantee that under the leadership of its Marxist-Leninist party and with the assistance of the Soviet Union, and other fraternal socialist countries and progressive people the world over Vietnam will defeat any enemy." [Text] [OW110149 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 10 May 84]

THAIS OPPOSE PRC POLICIES--In addition, NHAN DAN also carries a report saying that public opinion in Thailand disapproves of the Bangkok authorities' policy of following Beijing. The paper says: Many people have objected to the policy of following Beijing and opposing Vietnam and Kampuchea pursued by the ultrarightist reactionaries among the Bangkok ruling circles. The Thai daily MATUPHUM on 25 April ran an article by Mr Piyanat Watcharaphon, vice chairman of the House of Representatives and deputy general secretary of the Chat Thai Party, which clearly pointed out: We must understand that Vietnam is not our direct enemy. The current situation is mainly related to the Khmer groups in the tripartite coalition which Thailand has agreed to aid beyond its capacity. The present situation at the Thai-Kampuchean border is not too serious and should not be used as an excuse by any political party or military group to promote itself. This is the time to make careful preparations for seeking the best possible solution to the border problem, not for the sake of immediate gains but for the sake of the lasting peace that we need. [Text] [BK070926 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 6 May 84]

CSO: 4209/274



## PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

### HCM CITY MEETING MARKS DIEN BIEN PHU VICTORY

BK070857 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] A grand meeting was held by the party, people's, and VFF committees of Ho Chi Minh City and the 7th Military Region command at the city's theater on the evening of 4 May to mark the 30th anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory.

Attending the meeting were Comrades Phan Minh Tanh, member of the party Central Committee and deputy secretary of the city party committee; Phan Van Khai, alternate member of the party Central Committee and deputy chairman of the city people's committee; Lieutenant General Nguyen Minh Chau, member of the party Central Committee and commander of the 7th Military Region; veteran revolutionary cadres; and representatives of various organs, sectors, branches, and mass organizations and of the people of all strata and the armed forces of Ho Chi Minh City. Also on hand were the consuls general of the Soviet Union, GDR, Bulgaria, CSSR, Cuba, Poland, and Kampuchea and the representative of the French consul general in Ho Chi Minh City.

Comrade Phan Van Khai, alternate member of the party Central Committee and deputy chairman of the city people's committee, delivered the opening speech in which he pointed out that the Dien Bien Phu victory will remain forever the pride of our nation. Developing the Dien Bien Phu tradition and the victory of the anti-U.S. war for national salvation, over the past 9 years the people of the city named after Uncle Ho have recorded many new successes in the task of transforming, building, and defending the city. They are currently stepping up the socialist emulation movement in each unit, sector, and locality to score achievements in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the city's liberation.

Major General Tran Dinh Cuu, deputy commander of the 7th Military Region, gave a speech in which he recalled the process of development of the winter-spring 1953-54 fighting and the Dien Bien Phu campaign while highlighting the great significance and the reasons for the Dien Bien Phu victory. After reviewing the process of development of our country's revolution under the party's clear-sighted and skillful leadership throughout 30 years of construction and fighting to totally liberate the country and take the nation to the era of socialism, Comrade Tran Dinh Cuu pointed out: The tasks of the armed forces and people in the military region and Ho Chi Minh City are

always to uphold vigilance and stand ready to fight to smash all enemy schemes of sabotage. At the same time, they must actively emulate one another in stepping up production, being economical, restoring order in distribution and circulation, carrying out the scientific and technological revolution, and so forth so as to successfully implement the 1984 state plan and thus create favorable conditions for future undertakings in 1985 and subsequent years.

CSO: 4209/274

## PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

### HO CHI MINH CITY PANEL ON PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOOD

BK101405 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization recently met and issued a resolution on caring for the livelihood of cadres, workers, civil servants, soldiers, people entitled to government aid under current policy, and poor laborers.

In addition to ensuring these people's livelihood on the basis of promoting production and satisfactorily organizing the distribution and circulation of commodities as had already been done in the past, this time around the city's party organization, in its resolution, concentrated on resolving three pressing problems, namely increasing the income of the aforementioned people, finding work for them, and providing them with housing. Considering the present situation in the city, the effort to increase income should be made to benefit mainly the workers in the administrative sector, who are facing the most difficulties in daily life. This will be done through the application of various measures aimed at helping them develop family-oriented economic activities such as livestock raising and making artisan industrial and handicraft products under contract. Ho Chi Minh City will invest more than 100 million dong in the production of animal feed, veterinary medicines, and breeder animals, chiefly chickens and hogs. About 25,000 to 30,000 families of cadres will adopt appropriate methods to raise animals under contract according to each household's capacity. On this basis, all conditions should be prepared to double the number of families engaged in livestock raising under contract in 1985.

CSO: 4209/274

## PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

### CATHOLIC BODY REJECTS FOREIGN MEDIA 'SLANDER'

BK070149 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 6 May 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, May 6--The slander campaign conducted lately by foreign mass media against the Vietnamese Government has deeply hurt the Vietnamese people as a whole and Catholics in particular says a statement on the meeting of the Solidarity Committee on Vietnamese Patriotic Catholics (SCVPC) held in Hanoi from April (?24)-28.

The statement expressed deep appreciation on the welcome given to the success of the recent national congress of Vietnamese Catholics by all the Catholic community and other sections of the population.

It is a matter of regret, however, the statement says, that of late, instead of informing public opinion about this prevalent positive development, certain foreign radio and newspapers have released fallacious stories and made fantastic comments on the attitude and actions of a handful of persons hostile to the Vietnamese patriotic Catholics organization.

Moreover, these media have gone so far as to concoct stories about what they described as the Vietnamese Government's hostile attitude toward Catholics in Vietnam. This slander campaign has deeply hurt the sense of honour of the Vietnamese people as a whole and of Vietnamese Catholics in particular.

We therefore declare:

-- The Solidarity Committee of Vietnamese Patriotic Catholics (SCVPC) is an organization representative of the Catholic community. Composed of the clergy and laymen, it aims to rally and motivate all the Catholics in the country to perform well their civic duties in response to the call of their conscience and in keeping with the Christian spirit, thus helping constantly improve the relations between the church and temporal society in our beloved homeland, in accordance with the spirit of the gaudium and spes [rejoice and hope] constitution of the Council of Vatican 2.

We, Vietnamese Catholics, are living our religious life in accordance with the gospel at a time when our country is having to bear the extremely heavy aftermath of war, of which mention must be made of the deplorable consequences of the use of religions by the imperialist forces to oppose the Vietnamese revolution.

-- The SCVPC is not a religious body, but rather a necessary civic organization to help those Catholics who want to genuinely practise their faith to attain [words indistinct] not only in their present life in their homeland, but also in joining hundreds of millions of (?co-religionists) throughout the world in the pursuit of love, justice, peace and well being for all. Never have we thought of creating an autonomous church or taken any action along this line. On the contrary, we only want and help to make the church hold an honorable place in our beloved homeland, Vietnam.

-- The SCVPC has, in its statute, set out three definite goals:

- 1) To help motivate Vietnamese Catholics to enhance their love of the country so that their lives can prosper on the civic as well as religious plane, to actively join the people in the construction and defence on our homeland, Socialist Vietnam.
- 2) To contribute to efforts for application of the pastoral line on closely associating the church with the people and the homeland. To preserve the good name of Christianity, we must struggle resolutely against all attempts by the [word indistinct] and counter-revolutionaries at misusing religion.
- 3) To struggle tirelessly side by side with the peoples and Christians in all other countries for peace, justice and social progress.

All the activities and efforts of our committee aim to do away with the painful legacy of the past, enhance our fellow-citizens love of the country, further promote solidarity and mutual affection between the believers and laymen so that all of them work together for common happiness, and we are very proud on having made positive contributions to the evolution of Vietnamese Catholics. The effort of Vietnamese Catholics in national construction and defence have created further conditions for religious activities in keeping with the wishes of the people.

In our sphere of activity, we are doing our level best to help church dignitaries in their sacerdotal responsibilities. In this domain we have acquired precious experiences which can only be drawn from a persevering praxis. [action]

In the practice of the gospel among the people along the guideline of the Vietnamese episcopate, we have only one great desire: to live in all loyalty and effectively support the pastoral orientation of the assembly of our bishops and we greatly rejoice at the new changes for the better of the Vietnamese Church, in accordance with the spirit of the Council of Vatican 2.

We affirm our close and fraternal communion with all progressive Christians in the world and we wish to join our brethren in helping project everywhere a dignified picture of the Christian church.

We thank all our friends in the world who have taken a just stance and actions concerning the construction and defence of our beloved homeland, Vietnam. Our gratitude, in particular, goes to our Christian brothers and sisters who have understood us and have supported our efforts to build the Vietnamese Church through the practice of gospel life among the people.

We cannot, however, tolerate ill-intentioned reports and stories spread by foreign radios and newspapers which have been distorting realities in our country, particularly with regard to our religious life, worse still, they have spread slanderous charges aimed at causing us difficulties at a time when we are striving a real gospel life [as received] in our beloved country.

All the participants in this meeting share the view that the false reports and slanders spread by the said media clash with human conscience and morality, with Christian conscience.

We hope that our friends and brethren will take a clear-cut stance concerning the fallacious allegations of the said radios and newspapers.

CSO: 4200/729



## PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

### BRIEFS

DIEN BIEN PHU VICTORY--A grand meeting was held in Hanoi on Monday to mark the 30th anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory. General Secretary Le Duan; President of the State Council Truong Chinh; Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong; President of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho; General Van Tien Dung; Mr Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and many other Vietnamese leaders took part in the meeting presidium. After the opening speech by Chairman Pham Van Dong, the president of the State Council, Truong Chinh, delivered a speech. He emphasized that this year's celebration of Dien Bien Phu takes place at a time the Vietnamese people are striving for the fulfillment of two strategic tasks, namely building socialism and defending their socialist country. President Truong Chinh pointed to the achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in national building and defense. He condemned Beijing's increased armed provocations against Vietnam. He also called on the Vietnamese people and army to strengthen unity under the leadership of the party Central Committee led by General Secretary Le Duan and do their best to win new, yet greater victories in building socialism and defending their socialist homeland. Dear listeners, we will bring you an account to the meeting marking the 30th anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory in our later broadcast. [Text] [BK071050 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 7 May 84]

CSO: 4200/729

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

TO HUU URGES DOING PUBLISHING WORK WELL

OW070901 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 2 May 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] VAN NGHE [Arts and Letters] weekly published Comrade To Huu's [member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau] talk at the 35th founding anniversary of the VAN HOC [Literature] publishing house, entitled: "It Is Our Objective to Have Literary Works for Every Home."

Comrade To Huu cited the efforts of the VAN HOC publishing house over the past 35 years, and pointed out: Our publishing work should be done better so that books will reach readers. Cultural organizations, especially libraries, and literary organs should cooperate with the publishing houses and such mass organizations as the Youth Union in better organizing the introduction to readers, especially members of the younger generation, of the genuine value of works published, so that our publications will be read by people, be appreciated by them, and become food for thought for them. We should effectively organize reading, talks, introduction of books, and exchanges of views, also in the press. We are striving to publish low-cost books. If individuals still cannot buy many valuable books, collectives should buy them and organize reading well. We should strive to have many printed books and should eventually reach the objective of having a library for each home. We have built, and are building, large paper mills. We should strive to have them operate at full capacity. We also should rearrange and better use and manage the existing printing houses, and make preparations for the building of larger printing houses in the future.

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